Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05 H-02 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 PA-02 SP-02 SS-15 NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-01 TRSE-00 XMB-04 OPIC-06 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 CEA-01 STR-07 IO-14 AGRE-00 DOE-15 SOE-02 DOEE-00 HA-05 OES-07 /133 W

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O R 271245Z MAR 78 FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7501 INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, EAID, TU, GR, CY

SUBJECT: SECURITY ASSISTANCE: COUNTRY DATA

REF: STATE 75638

I. FOLLOWING INFORMATION REFERS ONLY TO GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS CONTROLLED (SOUTHERN) AREA OF CYPRUS.

A. ECONOMIC PROFILE

--POPULATION: 508,000, GROWTH RATE 0.9 PERCENT, 9,500 BIRTHS PER YEAR.

--INCOME: PROVISIONAL 1977 - \$2,098 (1 CYPRUS POUND EQUALS \$2.60). AVERAGE RATE OF GROWTH PER CAPITA INCOME OVER LAST YEARS: 6 PERCENT.

--GROWTH: CYPRUS ECONOMY WAS GROWING AT 5.5 PERCENT PER YEAR UNTIL EVENTS OF 1974 DISRUPTED ECONOMY. RECOVERY BAS BEEN RAPID. GROWTH NOW AVERAGING 6.5 PERCENT PER YEAR. CONTINUED GROWTH DUE TO INCREASING AGRICULTURAL AND LIGHT INDUSTRIAL EXPORTS TO MIDDLE EAST.

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--BALANCE OF PAYMENTS: FAVORABLE MARKET CONDITIONS FOR CYPRUS POTATOES AND FINANCIAL TRANSERS DURING LEBANESE CRISIS RESULTED IN SIGNIFICANT BOP SURPLUS IN 1976. SUBSTANTIAL INCREASE IN IMPORTS IN 1977 (PARTICULARLY FOR CAPITAL GOODS) REDUCED SURPLUS BUT EARNINGS FROM TOURISM KEEP IT POSITIVE. BOP DEFICIT IN 1978 LIKELY UNLESS GOC CAN DAMPEN DEMAND FOR IMPORTS. FORTUNATELY STRONG GOC FOREIGN EXCHANGE POSITION AND LOW DEBT SERVICE RATIO

MAKE LOAN PROSPECTS GOOD SHOULD INVISIBLES NOT COVER DEFICIT.

--TRADE: MAJOR EXPORTS AS PERCENT OF TOTAL EXPORTS:

POTATOES, CARROTS, AND OTHER FRESH VEGETABLES 17 PERCENT;

FOOTWEAR AND CLOTHING 14 PERCENT; CEMENT 8.5 PERCENT; WINE

PRODUCTS 8.4 PERCENT; MINERALS 6.5 PERCENT; CITRUS 5.2 PERCENT.

CYPRUS IS DEPENDENT ON UK AS MARKET FOR POTATOES AND VINE

PRODUCTS. NEW EEC IMPORT RESTRICTIONS WILL FORCE CYPRUS TO

DIVERSIFY ITS MARKETING EFFORTS. ALREADY MOST FOOTWEAR, CLOTH-ING AND CEMENT EXPORTS GO TO MIDDLE EAST.

- --LITERACY RATE: 89 PERCENT
- -- LIFE EXPECTANCY: 73 YEARS (MALE 72, FEMALE 74)
- -- PEOPLE PER DOCTOR: ONE PER 1100 PEOPLE.
- -- NUTRITION: NO STATISTICS AVAILABLE.

B. POLITICAL SITUATION

- -- FORM OF GOVERNMENT. EACH SECTION OF CYPRUS IS GOVERNED BY A DEMOCRATICALLY ELECTED PRESIDENT AND PARLIAMENT. THE UNITED STATES DOES NOT RECOGNIZE THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE NORTHERN (TURKISH CYPRIOT) SECTION BUT PROVIDES ASSISTANCE TO THE TURKISH CYPRIOT COMMUNITY THROUGH THE UNHCR. THE U.S. RECOGNIZES THE GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS HEADED BY PRESIDENT KYPRIANOU AS THE LEGITIMATE GOVERNMENT.
- -- PARTICULAR PROBLEMS. CYPRUS HAS BEEN PLAGUED BY RIVALRY AND VIOLENCE BETWEEN THE GREEK AND TURKISH COMMUNITIES SINCE BEFORE INDEPENDENCE. A PARTICULARLY VIOLENT OUTBREAK OF FIGHTING IN 1963 AND 1964 WAS FOLLOWED BY WITHDRAWAL OF THE TURKISH COMUNCLASSIFIED

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MUNITY FROM PARTICIPATION IN THE GOVERNMENT: THE MAJORITY OF THIS COMMUNITY MOVED INTO ENCLAVES. IN JULY 1974, THEN PRESIDENT MAKARIOS WAS TEMPORARILY FORCED FROM POWER IN A COUP INSTIGATED BY THE JUNTA WHICH WAS IN POWER IN GREECE. SHORTLY THEREAFTER MAINLAND TURKISH MILITARY FORCES LANDED IN CYPRUS. FINALLY OCCUPYING ABOUT 36 PERCENT OF CYPRIOT TERRITORY. TURKEY HELD THAT IT WAS ACTING UNDER ITS RESPONSIBILITIES AS A GUARANTOR OF THE CYPRUS CONSTITUTION AND IN ORDER TO PROTECT THE TURKISH CYP-RIOT COMMUNITY. AT PRESENT VIRTUALLY ALL TURKISH CYPRIOTS LIVE IN THE NORTHERN ZONE AND ALL BUT A HANDFUL OF GREEK CYPRIOTS LIVE IN THE GOVERNMENT CONTROLLED ZONE. THERE IS PRACTICALLY NO DIRECT COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE TWO ENTITIES. EFFORTS ARE BEING MADE UNDER THE AUSPICES OF THE UN SECRETARY GENERAL TO RESUME INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS AS A MEANS OF FINDING A SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. THE TURKISH GOVERNMENT AND THE TURKISH CYPRIOT AUTHORITIES HAVE RECENTLY UNDERTAKEN TO PRESENT PROPOSALS SOON ON THE CONSTITUTIONAL AND TERRITORIAL ISSUES FOR NEGOTIATION IN RESUMED INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS.

C. HUMAN RIGHTS CONDITIONS. BOTH CYPRIOT COMMUNITIES HAVE UNDOUBTEDLY SUFFERED NUMEROUS SERIOUS VIOLATIONS OF THEIR HUMAN RIGHTS AS A RESULT OF FLARING OF INTERCOMMUNAL VIOLENCE, AND

THE 1974 COUP AND INVASION. AT PRESENT THERE IS NO EVIDENT PATTERN OF GROSS VIOLATIONS OF HUMAN RIGHTS AGAINST PERSONS UNDER THEIR CONTROL ON THE PART OF EITHER PARTY. THE GOVERNMENT OF CYPRUS MAINTAINS THAT THE OCCUPATION OF NORTHERN CYPRUS IS IN ITSELF A CONTINUING VIOLATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS.

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O R 271245Z MAR 78 FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7502 INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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II. U.S. INTEREST AND POLICIES

A. POLITICAL. THE UNITED STATES SUPPORTS THE RESUMPTION OF INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS, BASED ON REALISTIC PROPOSALS, AS THE BEST MEANS OF RESOLVING THE CYPRUS PROBLEM. THE U.S. IS PREPARED TO ASSIST THE SECRETARY GENERAL'S EFFORTS IN THIS CONNECTION WHENEVER THERE IS AN OPPORTUNITY TO DO SO.

B. SECURITY. THE PRINCIPAL U.S. SECURITY INTEREST IN CYPRUS IS THAT IT BE A STABLE, PROSPEROUS, PEACEFUL COUNTRY WHICH WILL CONTRIBUTE TO STABILITY IN THE EASTERN MEDITERRANEAN AND WILL ALLEVIATE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN TWO IMPORTANT NATO ALLIES, GREECE AND TURKEY.

C. U.S. HAS LITTLE ECONOMIC INTEREST IN CYPRUS. IMPORTS FROM US TOTALLED \$36.9 MILLION IN 1977. WHEAT, FEED GRAINS AND TOBACCO MAKE UP 58 PERCENT OF TOTAL. US INVESTIMENT, PRIMARY BY MOBILE AND ESSO, IS ESTIMATED AT ONLY \$16 MILLION.

III. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE PROGRAMS

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A. U.S. DOES NOT PROVIDE BILATERAL ASSISTANCE TO CYPRUS.

B. IFI PROGRAMS (1974-1978):

- -- IBRD: COMMITMENTS \$60.7 MILLION
- -- MISCELLANEOUS: \$107.4 MILLION

C. OTHER DONORS (TOTALS 1974-1978):

- -- GREECE: \$122.4 MILLION (GRANT)
- -- EECC \$18.1 MILLION (FOOD COMMODITIES)
- -- OTHER COUNTRIES: \$10.7 MILLION
- -- PRIVATE DONORS (CHURCH GROUPS ETC.): \$71 MILLION
- -- UNHCR AND ICRC: \$104.2 MILLION (OF WHICH \$87.5 MILLION

GRANTED BY USAID)

-- WFP (AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AND SCHOOL FEEDING PROGRAM): \$12 MILLION.

IV. OBJECTIVES OF U.S. ASSISTANCE: US SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE OF \$92.5 MILLION (WHICH INCLUDES PROPOSED \$5 MILLION FOR FY79) IS CHANNELED THROUGH UNHCR FOR RELIEF AND REHABILITATION PROGRAMS. FULL DETAILS ALL PROGRAMS AVAILABLE AID/W.

V. OTHER INFORMATION RELEVANT TO U.S. FOREIGN ASSISTANCE. IN THE TURKISH CYPRIOT AREA (NORTH) THERE IS LITTLE RELIABLE DATA ON ECONOMIC CONDITIONS. LIVING STANDARDS ARE WELL BELOW THOSE OF THE SOUTH -- ONE ESTIMATE NOW PLACES 1977 GNP PER CAPITA IN THE NORTH AT \$1217.00 AS COMPARED WITH JUST OVER \$2,000 IN THE SOUTH. HOWEVER, PRODUCTION AND EXPORTS ARE SLOWLY RISING; MOST INFRASTRUCTURAL NEEDS HAVE BEEN MET, INCLUDING VILLAGE WATER AND ELECTRIFICATION. PROGRESS IS BEING MADE DESPITE SHORTAGES OF TECHNICAL, ENTREPRENEURIAL AND MANAGERIAL SKILLS AND A LACK OF FOREIGN EXCHANGE.

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